

FARMERS' MUTUAL COOPERATIVE

IOWA

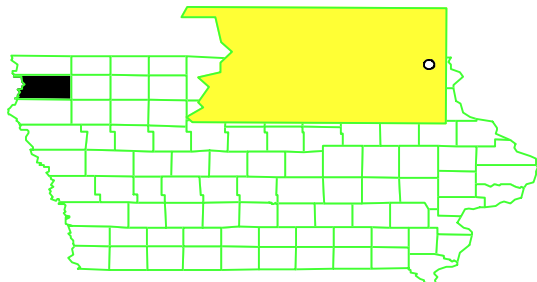
EPA ID# IAD022193577

EPA Region 7

City: Hospers

County: Sioux County

Other Names:



SITE DESCRIPTION

The Farmers' Mutual Cooperative is an agricultural supply and service business, now operating under the name of Midwest Farmers Cooperative that has operated at this 6-acre site since 1908. The site lies several hundred feet east of the Floyd River in the northwestern corner of the City of Hospers. Bulk fertilizer and pesticides were handled at the site until 1992. The site continues to be used for grain storage. In 1984, the State found herbicides and carbon tetrachloride in water from three shallow municipal wells located adjacent to the site. The State first restricted, then prohibited, the use of these three wells. Investigations conducted by the Cooperative found groundwater contamination in the relatively small area between the site and the Floyd River. The herbicide contamination appears to be the result of incidental releases during normal operations throughout the site. The carbon tetrachloride contamination of groundwater appears to be the result of previous on-site and off-site use of carbon tetrachloride for grain fumigation.

Site Responsibility:

This site is being addressed through Federal, State, and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 06/24/88

Final Date: 08/30/90

Deleted Date:

THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS

Description:

Groundwater contamination has resulted in the closure of three city

wells. A variety of common herbicides has been detected in the site groundwater including alachlor, atrazine, cyanazine, metolachlor, metribuzin, and trifluralin. Atrazine has been the most problematic as it has consistently been found in doses above the maximum drinking water standard. carbon tetrachloride was also initially found in groundwater in doses above drinking water standards; however, recent studies have shown carbon tetrachloride contamination to have virtually disappeared. Herbicides have been detected in site soils, although not at levels of health concern. The site groundwater discharges to the Floyd River without significant impact.

CLEANUP APPROACH

Response Action Status

Entire Site: The Farmer's Mutual Cooperative conducted investigations at the site in cooperation with the State beginning in 1984. Between 1984 and 1992 groundwater contamination was identified, two rounds of soil sampling occurred and four phased site investigations were conducted under the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). In 1992, the four groundwater monitoring events were completed. In September 1992, the Record of Decision (ROD) was signed. The selected remedy is natural attenuation and monitoring. The carbon tetrachloride contamination has already diminished significantly as the result of natural attenuation, and herbicide levels have also been decreasing. Farmer's Mutual Cooperative tested in 1993 to assess the potential for use of the three shallow wells for blending. This testing was completed in 1994. The results showed that the Superfund groundwater contaminants would allow the blending of the shallow and deep wells. However, nitrates which is not a Superfund contaminant of concern was found at concentration that would most frequently limit blending. The city of Hospers, decided that because nitrate was extremely expensive to treat they would abandon the shallow wells and connect to the Hospers Rural Water System for water.

Description:

Site Facts:

In 1986, the State ordered the Cooperative to determine the nature and threat of contamination and to identify cleanup alternatives. In 1987, the Cooperative entered into a Consent Order with the State in which they agreed to conduct this work.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



Natural attenuation has already resulted in significantly decreased levels of contaminants in groundwater. The State and EPA have determined that restricting use of contaminated groundwater has prevented, and will continue to prevent, any threat to public health from the site.

SITE REPOSITORY



Hospers City Hall
Hospers, IA 51238

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Records Center, 5th Floor
Wallace State Office Building
900 East Grand
Des Moines, IA 50319

Superfund Records Center
901 N. 5th St.
Kansas City, KS 66101
Mail Stop SUPR
(913)551-4038

REGIONAL CONTACTS

SITE MANAGER:
E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Ron King
king.ronald@epa.gov.
(913) 551-7568

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
COORDINATOR:**
PHONE NUMBER:

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER:
E-MAIL ADDRESS:

STATE CONTACT:
PHONE NUMBER:

Robert Drustrup
515/281-8900

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

STATE:
PACIFIC ISLAND(S):

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
EPA ORGANIZATION:

07Q8
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SFD-SUPR/IANE

MODIFICATIONS